Stage 1

One summer when I was 12 years old I followed mother to a Paris Collection
That was the day everything started...
デスパレード誌
創刊10周年記念
YUI-SAN, PLEASE LOOK THIS WAY.
YUI-SAN, THIS WAY TOO.
SFX: CHAK
SFX: SNAP

ARE YOU NIZATO YUI?
YES
I'VE HEARD GREATLY ABOUT YOU AND HAVE BEEN WANTING TO MEET WITH YOU.
SHE LOOKS MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL IN PERSON!!
TELL US A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE LATEST FASHION TRENDS!!
I HEARD YOU'LL BE CAST IN A DRAMA SOON...
WHO ARE YOU
AMAZING ! YUI!! EVEN THE PRESIDENT CAME TO ENCOURAGE YOU IN PERSON!!
AS EXPECTED OF A FAMOUS TOP MODEL UNLIKE IMMATURE MODELS LIKE US IT'S REALLY DIFFERENT
Modeling seems like a dream job worth doing
To be able to survive in this world is really not easy
PRESIDENT? THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM.

THIS IS THE PATH I CHOOSE
WAH! YUI!!
KATSUKI-SAN IS HERE!
AS USUAL HE'S VERY FAMOUS
EVEN A MAN LIKE HIM CAN BE A FAMOUS CAMERAMAN
KATSUKI AND YUI ARE COMPLETELY COMPATIBLE!!
EVEN THOSE GIRLS AROUND HER KNOW THAT THEY ARE NO MATCH FOR HER
...WELL ... NO MATCH IS NOT...

KYA—
NOT AGAIN SENDING WRONG SIGNALS
Me and Katsuki were a story that happened a long time ago
Indeed during those times, he supported me in many ways
smiles
He is still the No1 most important person in my life. But that is all
I only wanted to focus on my career as a model
Our workload increased and so did our differences. That time,
The one thing I care about the most now is...
However...

The person who is living under the same roof as me.
I'M HO...
..ME ....

SHOCKED!!
.....
GHOST!!

YUI-SAAA AAN...
This is my roommate, and a new model
Yamagida Aki
SFX. HUGS
I FAILED IN ANOTHER AUDITION
THAT'S MY 10 CONSECUTIVE TIME!
.....
EVER SINCE MOVING TO THE CAPITAL CITY FOR 2 MONTHS MY SCHEDULE HAS BEEN BLANK...
IS THAT FOREVER GOING TO BE MY FATE .....!!!??
DON'T KNOW
Slam

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE
AS USUAL NOTHING COMES BY...
BUT THAT'S FINE...
I'M GOING OUT!
AH?
OK, TAKE CARE..
PULL

SO ARE YOU!
Aki comes from an island off Chikusen Prefecture
She was suddenly brought here by the manager of my agency, which is also my mother, Naoko
Initially, it was Katsuki who found Aki
After moving to the capital for 2 months, she doesn't even have one job

PUT THIS ON HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE A FUSS
HIGH HEEL
JUST PUT IT ON AND TRY WALKING
EH?!!
ALTHOUGH I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
BUT I'LL DO IT
SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO WALK PROPERLY
AS EXPECTED.
BUT...

FOR A MOMENT THERE
HER AURA HAS
SOMEHOW FELT POSSIBLE.
BUT HER TALENT TO BE A QUALIFIED MODEL
THERE'S NOT REALLY A THEORY AS TO WHY.
AKI
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF MODEL SHE'LL BE
WHEN SHE GETS THE PROPER TRAINING,

THE TRICK TO WALKING IS KEEP ONES BALANCE
THE CORRECT POSTURE WILL KEEP ONES BALANCE IN MIND
CORRECT POSTURE...?
YEAP
LIKE WHEN YOU STAND WITH YOUR BACK AGAINST A WALL
THE POSITION WHEN YOUR SHOULDER AND YOUR BUTT ARE IN LINE WITH THE WALL
AND
THIS IS WHERE YOUR HEAD SHOULD BE
ERM...?
I SOMEHOW FEEL LIKE MY BODY GREW LONGER!!
.....
LASTLY, LIFT YOUR HEAD HIGH
AMAZING....

YUI-SAN, YOU'RE REALLY AMAZING!!
RUMOURS SAID THAT'S HOW A TOP CLASS PERSON TEACHES.
As expected from a top class model
KYA
KYA
¥130
MY MOTHER... WAS FROM THIS WORLD SOONER OR LATER YOU GET DRIFTED APART LIKE THE WAVES...
COME HAVE A DRINK TOO...
I'M NOT AT ALL SATISFIED.
.....
THERE'S NOTHING AMAZING ABOUT IT

TEARS
WHAT!!!!
YUI-SAN, I'M SUCH AN IDIOT
I'M AWARE OF THAT
I'M SUCH A BIG IDIOT, WHAT DO I DO?
I'M NOT EVEN WORTH A SMALL ANT AND
I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO TAKE LESSONS FROM YOU
INSTEAD OF DWELLING IN MY DESPAIRS, I SHOULD HAVE PRACTICED MORE!!
I SHOULD IMMEDIATELY GO BACK AND START TRAINING IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR
YOUR SIZE AND MINE ARE QUITE SIMILAR..
TAKE IT.
THANKS FOR THE HEELS

EH??
THAT WAS THE SHOE I WORE WHEN I DECIDED TO BE SERIOUS IN MODELING
I'M NOT WEARING IT ANYMORE
EH!! THEN IT'S A VERY PRECIOUS ITEM.
ALSO
"YUI"
JUST "YUI" IS FINE
DON'T THINK OF ME SO HIGHLY
--AKI
I'M...

NOT THE KIND OF ELEGANT MODEL YOU THINK I AM.
THAT MY FACE APPEARS ON PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINES
IT'S NOT UNCOMMON
WHATS THE MATTER?
NAOKO-SAN, PLEASE COME THIS WAY
THE EDITORIAL HAS BUSINESS TO DEAL WITH.
YES.
I'M NOT JUST HERE TO SEE YOU.
..., MOTHER?

NAOKO-SAN AND YUI-CHAN
EVERYONE ADMIRES HOW BOTH MOTHER AND CHILD BECAME JAPAN'S TOP MODELS
WITH WHOM?
YOU REALLY DO LOOK ALIKE
!
YOUR MOTHER MUST BE PROUD OF YOU
~:---MOM, TODAY AT SCHOOL ..:~
MY MOTHER OF COURSE WE'LL HAVE PARFAIT ON OUR WAY BACK TOMORROW
THAT'S GREAT TODAY I'M GOING SHOPPING WITH MY MOTHER TO BUY CLOTHES FOR TOMORROW
YUI, I HAVE TO LEAVE TO THE OFFICE FOR A BIT
HELLO? YES? I UNDERSTAND
IT'S VISITING DAY TOMORROW
WHO'S GONNA GO WITH ME?

LOOK AT ME
100
UM..
THAT'S GOOD
MOM! LOOK!
100
I GOT A 100 ON THE TEST!
THAT'S WHY I BECAME A MODEL
YUI-CHAN, WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME OUR READERS MODEL?
LOOK AT ME
IF I BECAME A MODEL
BUT YOU'RE A DIFFERENT TYPE.
YUI-CHAN IS JAPAN'S MOST CHARISMATIC MODEL ...
NAOKO-SAN IS A HARD WORKING MODEL. ONE THAT HAS A LOT OF FOCUS
BOTH ARE JUST SO CHARMING!!

IT'S NOT JUST THROUGH FAMOUS MAGAZINES THAT I'M ABLE TO GAIN MOTHER'S RECOGNITION
WELL EVER SINCE THE BIRTH AND REJECTION OF THAT STAGE APPEARANCE AT THE PARIS COLLECTION
NAOKO HAS COMPLETELY RETIRED FROM HER CAREER. BUT SHE IS STILL SO COOL
WHAT IF I WAS NEVER BORN
CLICK
CLICK
TO BE ABLE TO BE RECRUITED INTO THE WORLD'S MOST HIGH PROFILE SHOW -
PARIS COLLECTION...

IF ONLY I WAS A FIRST CLASS TOP MODEL
5F
ANY-THING?
WHEN WERE YOU STANDING THERE.
POP!
OH SHE'S HERE
B1 FLOOR FOR ME PLEASE
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT
.....
B2
B1
1
2
POP!!
.....
OK

BLOCK
.....
TODAY YOU LOOK LIKE
YOU WOULD CRY ANY-TIME SOON.

THANK YOU
WHAT-EVER HAPPE-NS,
I'M ALWAYS HERE.
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT

DON'T BE SO KIND TO ME WHEN I'M DEEENSELESS
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH KATSUKI-SAN'
AFTER ALL, HE'S JUST AN EX-LOVER
EH?? !!!
SFX: RUCKUS
KATSUKI-SAN ISN'T YOUR BOY-FRIEND??!!
SO WHAT IF HE ISN'T
SHOULD YOU AT LEAST SAY YOU WERE IN HOME?
ERM, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A...
IT WAS TRUE WE WERE TOGETHER FOR A WHILE BEFORE
NOW WE'RE JUST WORKING COLLEAGUES

VOGUE
PARIS
Why are you studying this?
VOGUE PARIS
THE HISTORY OF FASHION.
THE BIOGRAPHY OF ARMANI?
ERM,
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M STUDYING...
I WAS THINKING OF SENDING A LETTER
TO THE PUBLISHER FROM VOGUE...
DO YOU KNOW ANYONE?
I PROBABLY WON'T EVEN GET IT.
HOWEVER
THE CUSTOMER FROM THE PLACE I WORK PART-TIME SAID TO ME
'INSTEAD OF BEING DORMANT I SHOULD MAYBE TRY MY LUCK'.
"WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? -VOGUE PARIS- IS THE WORLD'S LEADING EDGE FASHION MAGAZINE.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE RIGHT?

ALTHOUGH I DON'T HAVE ANY ACHIEVEMENTS HERE IN JAPAN,
AND MAYBE OVERSEAS
BUT...
BUT I'D LIKE TO TRY.
IF I HAVE THE CHANCE I'LL FACE THE CHALLENGE
I JUST WANT TO BE ABLE TO STAND SIDE BY SIDE WITH YOU, YUI.

THE OCEAN THAT SEEM SO HARD TO GET THROUGH...
YOU GOT BY SMOO-THLY ..
I COULD NEVER SEE THE SHORE
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRIED TO SWIM ACROSS
I'M...
THE FIRST IS TO GET THROUGH TOMORROW'S AUDITION
AH! AS I'VE THOU-GHT.
RECK-LESS
ISN'T THAT A BEING A LITTLE BIT TOO

I'D REA-
LLY WANT
TO KNOW
HOW
YOU GOT
THE AUDI-
TION.
THANKS TO
YOU, I CAME TO
MY SENSES.

IF I DON'T AIM FOR IT PROPERLY,
I'LL NEVER GET THERE.
THAT'S WHY
I NEED TO IMPROVE NO MATTER WHAT
EH?
YOU GOT SELECTED?

WHEN I CAN FINALLY HAVE MY MODELING DEBUT
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM NAOKO-SAN!!
IT'S ABOUT THE JOOLS AUDITION.
I WAS WEARING YOUR HEELS WHEN I DID THE AUDITION.
I FELT VERY CONFIDENT-
IT FEELS AS THOUGH YOU WERE RIGHT BESIDE ME
.....
OHG MY HEART IS STILL BEATING SO FAST
THANK YOU YUI!

BA-KA-!!
SO YOU'VE FINALLY ASCENDED TO THE FRONT LINE
THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNI-NG...
EH! YES! I'LL WORK HARD
AKI, ARE YOU SMILING NOW OR CRYING?
AKI, YOUR LESSON STARTS NOW
YES
RING
RING

I SAW YOUR MAIL.
I'M IN YOKOHAMA NOW...
I'M IN A PLEA-SANT MOOD TODAY.
AL-RIGHT.
AH!
I'VE BOUGHT FLOWE-RS!!

NOW THAT I THINK OF IT. AKI DID A LOT OF HOME COOKING FOR ME ON MY BIRTHDAY TOO
SHE DIDN'T KNOW WHEN I'LL BE BACK BUT W. ITED FOR ME REGARDLESS.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY YUI
IN HER CRAZY DECORA- TIONS AND FANCY PARTY HAT
SHE WAS ALL PERKY
AKI'S EXISTENCE HAS BEEN LONG BURIED IN MY HEART
IT'S AS THOUGH AS A MOTHER'S JOB THAT IS WAITING FOR HER CHILD TO COME BACK ..
I'M THE ONE WHO IS WAITING NOW
THIS FEELING OF UNEASI- NESS AND LONELINESS
AKI HAS LONG BEEN FACING

YUI!
AKI?
WE'LL HAVE TO SAY GOOD-BYE FROM HERE ON
LEFT
RIGHT

.....WHERE IS THIS PLACE?
I'LL BE TAKING THE ROAD ON THE LEFT..
BAH WAIT UP!!
KY-A!!!
WHAT'S GOING ON
WHERE DID AKI GO?

DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE!!
AKI!?
AKI!! ...?
...HEY ...
NO-BODY
IS GOING TO WAIT FOR YOU ANYMORE

BAP SCANS
CREDITS
TRANSLATOR
TRUDY
PROOFREADER
LILY
CLEANER
LILY
TYPESETTER
MANGO25
UALITY CHECKER
LILY
RUNAWAY NO
KOIBITO